

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 16829 280359Z

43

ACTION SCSE-00

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R 272035Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0817

INFO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

UNCLAS PARIS 16829

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN (DEPOSITIONS AND AFFIDAVITS)

SUBJECT: DEPOSITIONS AND AFFIDAVITS

REF: A. ISTANBUL OM OF JUNE 11, 1975

B. PARIS A-288, JUNE 25, 1975

1. FRENCH LAWYER HAS REQUESTED EMBASSY TO NOTARIZE SIGNATURE OF FRENCH CITIZEN ON DOCUMENT WHICH CONTAINS SERIES OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS IN ENGLISH. COVER PAGE OF DOCUMENT NAMES U.S. ATTORNEYS WHO ACT FOR PLAINTIFFS "IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA IN RE: PARIS AIR CRASH OF MARCH 3, 1974". DOCUMENT STATES IT IS "PLAINTIFF'S ANSWERS TO INTERROGATORIES, DAMAGES. DECEDENT: ROBERT LERENDU". U.S. LAWYERS, SPEISER AND KRAUSE, 200 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017, TEL 212 661-0011, MENTIONNED IN ISTANBUL REF OM ARE ALSO ORIGINATORS OF DOCUMENTS PRESENTED AT EMBASSY PARIS.

2. EMBASSY HAS DECLINED TO NOTARIZE SIGNATURE ON LAST PAGE WHICH READS AS AFFIDAVIT IN WHICH PLAINTIFF AFFIRMS HE HAS READ THE FOREGOING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS AND THAT TO BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE ANSWERS ARE TRUE. PLAINTIFF IN THIS CASE DOES NOT UNDERSTAND ENGLISH, AND NO INTERPRETER WAS PROVIDED. FRENCH LAWYER HANDLING THE CASE INFORMS US HE HAS SEVERAL OTHERS TO FOLLOW.

3. IN FORMAT, DOCUMENT APPEARS TO BE INTERROGATORY
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FOR DEPOSITION, FOR WHICH EMBASSY WOULD NORMALLY BE

REQUIRED TO FOLLOW PROCEDURES SET OUT IN 7FAM 842.

4. EMBASSY SEEKS DEPARTMENT VIEWS ON PROPER METHOD OF PROCEEDING IN THESE CASES. EVEN IF CALIFORNIA LAWS PERMIT COURT TO ACCEPT INTERROGATORIES HANDLED AS INFORMALLY AS SUGGESTED HERE, WE QUESTION PROPRIETY OF OUR FOLLOWING THIS PROCEDURE AS IT VIOLATES CONDITIONS FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS ESTABLISHED FOR TAKING EVIDENCE TO BE USED IN FOREIGN COURTS.

5. PARIS A-288 OF JUNE 25, 1975 (POUCHED JUNE 26)
COVERS FRENCH REQUIREMENTS FOR TAKING OF EVIDENCE.
EMBASSY INFO SHEET ON LETTERS ROGATORY AND DEPOSITIONS
IS INCLUDED AS ENCLOSURE. EMBASSY IS MAILING INFO SHEET
TO U.S. LAWYERS CONCERNED.
RUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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